

STATE OF MICHIGAN
COURT OF APPEALS

In the Matter of LEONARD JULIUS COCHRAN,
JR., Minor.

FAMILY INDEPENDENCE AGENCY,

Petitioner-Appellee,

v

LEONARD COCHRAN, SR.,

Respondent-Appellant,

and

FELICIA LATONIA EDWARDS,

Respondent.

In the Matter of CORNELIUS CORTEZ
EDWARDS and TERRANCE LONZELL
EDWARDS, Minors.

FAMILY INDEPENDENCE AGENCY,

Petitioner-Appellee,

v

FELICIA LATONIA EDWARDS,

Respondent-Appellant,

and

BILLY ALEXANDER and DOUQUAN BLUNT,

UNPUBLISHED
November 25, 2003

No. 245241
Wayne Circuit Court
Family Division
LC No. 99-377741

No. 245245
Wayne Circuit Court
Family Division
LC No. 99-377741

Respondents.

Before: Cooper, P.J., and Markey and Meter, JJ.

MEMORANDUM.

In Docket No. 245241, respondent Leonard Cochran, Sr., appeals as of right from the order terminating his parental rights to his child under MCL 712A.19b(3)(g) and (j). In Docket No. 245245, respondent Felicia Edwards appeals as of right from the order terminating her parental rights to her two older children under MCL 712A.19b(a)(ii), (c)(i), (g), and (j). We affirm.

The trial court did not clearly err in finding clear and convincing evidence to establish the statutory grounds for termination. MCR 5.974(I), now MCR 3.977(J); *In re Trejo*, 462 Mich 341, 353; 612 NW2d 407 (2000). In Docket No. 245245, the principal conditions leading to adjudication were respondent Edwards' drug abuse and lack of suitable housing and employment. The evidence showed that respondent Edwards failed to complete outpatient drug treatment and failed to turn in drug screens consistently. She did not visit with Cornelius and Tarrance for over a year, and her housing situation was not shown to be stable or adequate for the children. We find the evidence sufficient to establish MCL 712A.19b(3)(c)(i), (g), and (j).

In Docket No. 245241, we do not find clear error in the trial court's termination of respondent Cochran's parental rights under subsections (3)(g) and (j). Respondent Cochran accidentally killed a younger child by rolling over on him in bed. Leonard, Jr., then aged two, was sleeping on the couch downstairs when this occurred. A parent's treatment of one child may be considering in deciding whether to terminate parental rights as to another child. *In re AH*, 245 Mich App 77, 84; 627 NW2d 33 (2001). Respondent Cochran's alcoholism, anger problems, and lack of suitable housing, as well as the death of Leandre, all support the trial court's ruling as to subsections (g) and (j).

Further, the evidence failed to show that termination of respondents' parental rights was clearly not in the children's best interests. MCL 712A.19b(5); *Trejo, supra* at 356-357. In Docket No. 245245, the two children were bonded with and loved their mother, yet the evidence showed their concern over her welfare and their placement was affecting their well-being during the several-year history of the case. In Docket No. 245241, respondent Cochran was bonded with Leonard, Jr., but the father's ability to provide a stable, secure environment was in serious question. We do not find clear error in the trial court's determination on the best interests issue.

Affirmed.

/s/ Jessica R. Cooper
/s/ Jane E. Markey
/s/ Patrick M. Meter